

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### ***What is claimed is:***

1. (Currently amended) A fishing reel having a gear couple comprising: a first gear having a first meshing base, said first meshing base being covered by a first layer which includes the element gold disposed substantially uniformly over the meshing base; a first intermediate layer disposed between said first meshing base and said first layer; and a second gear having a second meshing base, said second meshing base being covered by a second layer which includes the element chromium disposed substantially uniformly over the meshing base,

wherein said first layer and said second layer engage in meshing contact and wherein said first intermediate layer is cyanide copper.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The fishing reel of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 further including a second intermediate layer disposed between the first meshing base and said first layer.

5. (Original) The fishing reel of claim 4 wherein the second intermediate layer is acid copper sulfate.

6. (Currently Amended) The fishing reel of claim 1 further including a ~~first~~ third intermediate layer disposed between the second meshing base and said second layer.

7. (Currently amended) The fishing reel of claim 6 wherein said ~~first~~ third intermediate layer is nickel.

8. (Original) The fishing reel of claim 1 wherein the first layer has a thickness of about 0.005mm.

9. (Original) The fishing reel of claim 1 wherein the first gear is a crown gear.

10. (Original) The fishing reel of claim 1 wherein the first gear is a spur gear.

11. (Original) The fishing reel of claim 1 wherein the first gear is made from a zinc alloy.

12. (Currently amended) A gear couple comprising:

a first gear having a first gear surface and a first gear outer gear layer which includes gold; a first intermediate layer between said first gear outer layer and said first gear surface; a second intermediate layer disposed between the first gear outer layer and the first gear surface; and

a second gear having a second gear surface and a second gear outer gear layer which includes chromium; ~~and~~ [[,]]

wherein said first gear and said second gear ~~being~~ are disposed to form a meshing interface between the first gear outer layer and the second gear outer layer .

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The gear couple of ~~claim 13~~ claim 12 wherein said first intermediate layer is cyanide copper.

16. (Currently amended) The gear couple of ~~claim 13~~ claim 12 wherein the ~~first~~ second intermediate layer is acid copper sulfate.

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17. (Currently amended) The gear couple of claim 12 further including a ~~first~~ third intermediate layer between the second gear outer layer and a the second gear surface.

18. (Original) The gear couple of claim 12 wherein the first layer has a thickness of about 0.005mm.

19. (Original) The gear couple of claim 12 wherein the first gear is made from a zinc alloy.

20. (Original) The gear couple of claim 12 wherein the second gear is made from a brass alloy.